



ST. PATRICK'S ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Immunocompromised Children in School High Risk Assessment and Self Isolation Request

Parents requesting schooling accommodations due to an immunocompromised diagnosis are asked to review the following information and submit appropriate documentation from your child's specialist team in support of **protective self-isolation**.

1. COVID-19 Public Health Guidance for K-12 School Settings (August 17, 2020)

http://www.bccdc.ca/Health-Info-Site/Documents/COVID_public_guidance/Guidance-k-12-schools.pdf

2. Guidance for Families of Immunocompromised Children in School and Group Gatherings Updated: July 10, 2020

<http://www.bccdc.ca/Health-Professionals-Site/Documents/COVID19-easing-social-distrancing-IS-children.pdf>

3. BCCDC Guidance for Children with Immune Suppression (June 15, 2020)

<http://www.bccdc.ca/Health-Info-Site/Documents/COVID-19-IS-Children-FAQ-BCCH.pdf>

The current recommendations are:

- Maintain physical distancing and good handwashing.
- Most children with immune compromise can return to school and other group gatherings, when safety measures are in place.
- Protective self-isolation is only recommended for children with severe immune compromise, on a case-by-case basis.

If you have a child with immune compromise:

Understand the level of risk for your child. Your child's specialist team will tell you about your child's risk of getting an infection. Your child's level of risk depends on their illness and its treatments, and other risk factors like pre-existing lung disease.

Your child's level of risk may be:

- **Low risk:** In general, your child's level of immune compromise does not increase the risk of serious or rare infection.
- **Medium risk:** Your child's level of immune compromise increases their risk of infection. Your child may be at higher risk to get sick with an infection or stay sick for longer. Or, your child may get sick from an infection that does not affect healthy people. This can happen when your child takes immune suppression medicines for a long time. Children with immune compromise already take precautions to prevent infection. Most children with immune suppression will be considered medium or low risk, and should take the same precautions for COVID-19 as the general population.
- **High risk:** Your child has a high risk of getting sick with an infection. This includes situations like starting some chemotherapy, treatment with high doses of steroid medications or children with very low white blood cell counts.

Your child's specialist team will explain if your child should be considered at high-risk, and whether protective self-isolation is needed.

- Precautions will be discussed by your specialist on a case by case basis to see what the best safety plan is for your child.
- Your child's specialist team can write letters to school and employers, in support of your household members staying home.

Specialist Team Statement

I confirm that _____ (said student or adult) at _____ school (or parent/guardian of _____, grade _____) has been diagnosed with an immunosuppression or a pre-existing pulmonary condition and is deemed to be at (low, medium, high) risk to return to school.

This condition is assessed as:

- Low risk:** In general, the level of immune compromise does not increase the risk of serious or rare infection.
- Medium risk:** the level of immune compromise increases risk of infection. The child may be at higher risk to get sick with an infection or stay sick for longer. Or, the child may get sick from an infection that does not affect healthy people. This can happen immune suppression medicines are taken for a long time.

Children with immune compromise already take precautions to prevent infection. Most children with immune suppression will be considered medium or low risk, and should take the same precautions for COVID-19 as the general population.

- High risk:** There is a high risk of getting sick with an infection. This includes situations like starting some chemotherapy, treatment with high doses of steroid medications or children with very low white blood cell counts.
- Protective self-isolation is recommended.**

Name/Address of Physician:

Signature of Physician:

Date: _____